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TO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY 7779
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 187810

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, MZ, US
SUBJECT: STATUS OF MOZAMBICAN DETAINEE

REF: A) 87 STATE 208617; B) 87 MAPUTO 2818

1. DEPARTMENT WAS CONTACTED JUNE 9 BY JOSE FRANCISCO, WHO TESTIFIED BEFORE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE JUNE 24, 1987 THAT HIS BROTHER ANTONIO HAD BEEN DETAINED IN A RE-EDUCATION CAMP IN LICHINGA, NIASSA PROVINCE FOR MORE THAN TEN YEARS. FRANCISCO DETENTION WAS SUBJECT OF JUNE 25, 1987 LETTER FROM SENATORS SIMON, HELMS, KASSEBAUM, AND CRANSTON, WHICH GENERATED REFS A AND B. JOSE FRANCISCO WANTED TO KNOW IF DEPARTMENT HAD RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF HIS BROTHER FROM THE GPRM. WE UNDERTOOK TO MAKE ANOTHER INQUIRY INTO THE MATTER.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE RAISE THIS CASE AGAIN WITH APPROPRIATE MOZAMBICAN OFFICIALS SO THAT WE CAN PROVIDE A SUBSTANTIVE RESPONSE TO SENATORS AND MR. FRANCISCO. WE NOTE THAT MOZAMBICAN JUSTICE MINISTER DAUTO MET WITH AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL DURING HIS RECENT TRIP TO THE U.S.; AMNESTY MENTIONED ANTONIO FRANCISCO IN ITS 1987 REPORT AND MAY HAVE RAISED THE CASE WITH THE MINISTER. IN LIGHT OF THIS AND THE MINISTER'S WORK TO IMPROVE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN MOZAMBIQUE, HE MIGHT BE A USEFUL CONTACT IN THIS REGARD. ARMACOST

END OF MESSAGE

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